Barrie Public LIBRARY

BOARD MINUTES

BOARD MEETING: 26-01

DATE: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2026, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: DOWNTOWN – ANGUS ROSS ROOM

Attendees:	Austin Mitchell (Chair), George Hawtin (Vice-Chair), Nigussie Nigussie (Councillor), Amy Courser (Councillor)(virtual), Michael Sauro (virtual), Scott Herman, Merrisa Little (virtual), Catherine Kenwell
Library Staff:	L. Jessop, J. Little, L. LaFleshe, C. Vanderkruys
Regrets:	John Bicknell
Note Taker:	K. Bouffard

1. **Call to Order, Welcome and Land Acknowledgment**
   The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM
2. **Confirmation of Agenda**
   The agenda was confirmed.
3. **Conflicts of Interest**
   No conflicts were declared.
4. **Delegations – None**
5. **Board Development – OLA Key Takeaways**
   The presentation will be posted of the Hub for Board members to review following the meeting.

Consent Agenda

6. **Board Meeting Minutes**
7. **CEO Report: Strategic and Operational Highlights**
8. **2025 Year in Review**
9. **HR Update**
10. **Q4 2025 Measures of Overall Performance**
11. **KPIs Update**

12. Correspondence

12.1 Bill C15 Advocacy Letter to MP's

The advocacy efforts were largely successful. Amendments have been introduced to include language protecting services for the blind and library shipping rates with Canada Post.

12.2 Canada Summer Jobs Letter to MP's

13. Deferred Items

a. Financial Migration

Agenda

14. Items held from the Consent Agenda

Motion #26-01 **SCOTT HERMAN - GEORGE HAWTIN**

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board adopts the consent agenda for Board meeting #26-01 dated Thursday, February 26, 2026. CARRIED

15. CEO Workplan

The CEO reviewed her 2026 work plan, which has been updated to reflect the revised CEO job description including the "Responsibility Area" section.

Motion #26-02 **CATHERINE KENWELL – MICHAEL SAURO**

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board accept the CEO Work Plan 2026. CARRIED

16. Board Committees

16.1 Personnel & Finance

16.1.1 Budget (revised)

Motion #26-03 **SCOTT HERMAN - AMY COURSER**

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approve the amended 2026 Budget as recommended by the Personnel & Finance Committee. CARRIED

16.1.2 Policy Updates

Motion #26-04 **GEORGE HAWTIN - CATHERINE KENWELL**

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approve revisions to the Corporate Credit Card Policy, and that the Disconnecting from Work Policy be approved with no changes, as recommended by the Personnel and Finance Committee. CARRIED

A meeting scheduled in March will review additional policies, there is also a plan to meet in April to review the draft audit.

16.2 Community & Governance

16.2.1 Policy Updates

Motion #26-05 SCOTT HERMAN - CATHERINE KENWELL

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approve revisions to the Service Hours Policy and that the Advocacy Policy be approved with no changes and as recommended by the Community and Governance Committee. CARRIED

16.2.2 Announcements

Board members are welcome to attend a BPS Technology Session that will take place on March 17th from 6-8pm at the Downtown Library.

17. Report of the Chair – Verbal Report

The Board Chair thanked members for attending the RVH Book kiosk opening.

BPL hosted a staff development day with some Board members attending and presenting Long-Service Awards to staff.

Several Board members attended the Letitia Heights virtual stakeholders meeting. A press release was issued following the lease announcement for the new location.

Scott and George attended the Mayor's Luncheon on behalf of the Library.

Catherine Kenwell was welcomed to the Barrie Public Library Board.

The budget presentation was delivered to council and was approved.

18. Closed Meeting

Public Libraries Act – Section 16.1(4) (d) labour relations or employee negotiations.

Motion #26-06 SCOTT HERMAN - AMY COURSER

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board conduct a Closed meeting as the subject matter being considered concerns labour relations or employee negotiations (Public Libraries Act Section 16.1(4)(d)). CARRIED

This portion of the meeting was held in closed session.

18.1 Close Board Meeting Minutes

18.2 Administrative Exempt Policies

Rise and report

Motion #26-07 **GEORGE HAWTIN - SCOTT HERMAN**

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approve the Closed Meeting minutes from Board meeting #25-09 dated Thursday, November 27, 2025. CARRIED

Motion #26-08 **SCOTT HERMAN - MERRISA LITTLE**

THAT the Barrie Public Library Board approve the Administrative Exempt Policies: Salary and Benefits Administration, Hours of Work, and Training and Development, as recommended by the Personnel and Finance Committee, with such approval to take effect upon repeal of the existing Administrative Exempt Policy. CARRIED

19. Date of Next Board Meeting

Thursday, April 23, 2026, 7:00 PM

20. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM